inhibitor of neovascularization; preferably with a single agent having both of these activities. In a preferred embodiment, the agent is a single agent having PEDF activities. In a currently more preferred aspect, the agent is human PEDF.

In a preferred aspect of this embodiment of the invention, the neuroprotective and/or antiangiogenic agent(s) are administered to the patient sufficiently prior to PDT treatment so as to be available to protect nerve cells and/or inhibit neovascularization upon the commencement of therapy. In another aspect of the invention, PEDF is administered with sufficient time to inhibit or block neovascularization occurring after PDT treatment.

Such methods are applicable to PDT treatment which makes use of any photoactive compound. Such compounds may include derivatives of hematoporphyrin, as described in U.S. Patents No. 5,028,621; 4,866,168; 4,649,151; and 5,438,071. pheophorbides are described in U.S.Pat. Nos. 5,198,460; 5,002,962; and 5,093,349; bacteriochlorins in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,171,741 and 5,173,504; dimers and trimers of hematoporphyrins in U.S. Pat. Nos, 4,968,715 and 5,190,966. Other possible photoactive compounds include purpurins, merocyanines and porphycenes. All of the aforementioned patents are incorporated by reference herein. Of course, mixtures of photoactive compounds may be used in conjunction with each other.

A currently preferred photoactive compound is verteporfin (liposomal benzoporphyrin derivative). This compound is currently the only photoactive agent